

just beyond the southwestern limits of the town. The tornado traveled from southwest to northeast and the path of greatest destruction averaged about 100 yards wide. The time was between 8:30 and 8:45 p. m. and the storm lasted about one minute. A roaring sound was heard and several correspondents reported that a funnel-shaped cloud was seen. The first damage was the blowing down of a barn on Mrs. Hood's place, about 1 mile from the western limits of the town. The path then extended diagonally across the southern and western portions of the city for a distance of a mile and it passed on toward Noxway. Six or seven miles beyond Outhbert a barn and house were destroyed on the Northfield place. In the city itself the tornado left a line of wrecked houses, uprooted trees, and tangled telegraph wires, while merchandise and wreckage of all kinds covered its path. Evidence as to rotary motion by means of the position of fallen trees is doubtful. The loss of life was fortunately small; 5 persons were killed, about 13 were more or less seriously injured, and perhaps 300 were made homeless. The total loss is conservatively estimated at about \$200,000.

A few of the peculiar effects of the storm may be mentioned. In a small grove of pine trees near the railroad track most of the trees were twisted off 10 to 12 feet from the ground. Fourteen box cars, some loaded with freight, standing on a side track were derailed. The Confederate Monument in Central Park was wrecked. The top of the standpipe was torn off, though it stood 200 yards outside of the path of the storm. The tornado swept the negro settlement and a part of the business section, but the residence district and the public buildings escaped.

On the same day at about 5 p. m. another tornado seems to have passed about 4 miles north of Big Creek in Forsythe County, in northern Georgia, over a path 200 yards wide; it came through Chamble Gap of Suwanee Mountain. It did considerable damage though no one was killed.

#### TORNADOES IN ALABAMA.

By F. P. CHAFFER, Section Director. Dated Montgomery, Ala., February, 1909.

On February 5, 1909, two tornadoes passed over parts of Alabama.

The first began a few miles southwest of Hanceville, Cullman County, at 1:15 p. m., and lasted but a few minutes. The tornado cloud is described as having the appearance of a slender white column. Its path extended from southwest to northeast and averaged about 80 yards wide. One child was killed and twelve other persons were injured. The damage to property aggregated about \$5,000.

The second tornado was more severe. It began about 3 miles southwest of Burkville, Lowndes County, about 4:30 p. m., and extended 10 miles into Montgomery County. It was accompanied by a funnel-shaped cloud. The average width of the path was about 150 yards. Near Burkeville one person was killed and two were injured. At this point six small frame houses were destroyed, their aggregate value being \$1,800. At Stone's Plantation, about 9 miles west of Montgomery, where the greatest destruction was wrought, two persons were killed and about fifteen others were injured. At this point seven or eight houses and numerous farm implements were destroyed, the aggregate value of which was about \$6,000.

The tin roof of one house at Stone's Plantation was ripped off and the tin wrapped about the limbs of an adjacent tree. Two bales of cotton, bound with six metal ties each, were also torn to pieces and scattered some distance to the northeast. At the same place a large manure spreader weighing over 1,000 pounds was also broken up and the heavy pieces carried for some distance.

On the afternoon of February 23, 1909, a tornado occurred near Tusculumbia, Colbert County, near the northwest corner of

Alabama. This tornado began about 7 miles southwest of Tusculumbia, at 5:30 p. m. Its path, which was about 100 yards wide, extended a little over 1 mile from southwest to northeast, and the destructive winds accompanying the usual funnel-shaped cloud did serious damage. One person was killed, five frame buildings were destroyed, and other damage done.

#### SEVERE WINDS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

J. W. Bauer, Section Director, Columbia, S. C., reports that on March 25, about 2:15 or 2:20 a. m., a severe and destructive windstorm traversed Greenwood and Newberry counties, S. C., but that the local reports do not confirm the statement that the storm was tornadic in character. Many trees were destroyed and buildings wrecked, and one person was reported killed. Some observers report that the storm was succeeded by a brilliant light as though reflected from clouds. In Columbia the luminous cloud was distinctly observed also. The station barograph at Columbia shows a quick jump of slightly more than 0.15 inch similar to the "nose" of a thunderstorm curve and unlike the downward curve characteristic of the pressure change accompanying a tornado.

#### TORNADOES IN TEXAS.

[Extracts from Monthly Climatological Reports, Texas Section, February and March, 1909.]

*February, 1909.*—A tornado, with well-defined pendant, funnel-shaped cloud, occurred at Center, Shelby County, Tex., at 5:30 a. m., February 5, 1909. It moved from southwest toward northeast. The path of greatest destruction was about one-fourth mile in width. The trees prostrated in the path of the storm were all lying in a northeasterly direction. The damage amounted to about \$5,000, but there were no casualties.

A storm occurred at Liberty, Tex., at 3:30 p. m. February 18, 1909, moving from the southwest toward the northeast. The cloud was very dark and came like a whirlwind. It destroyed four buildings and then rose into the air, and descending again destroyed two more. The path of the storm was 30 feet wide. The damage is estimated at \$3,000. One person was killed and five were injured.

Another storm occurred 7 miles southeast and south of San Augustine, Tex., about 2 p. m. February 18, 1909. It came from the southwest and went toward the northeast. The path of greatest destruction was 125 yards wide. Most of the trees on the north and south sides of the path were blown toward the center, while those in the center were lying both ways. Four houses were blown down; damage, \$2,000. Stock loss was slight, as but few were in the path of the storm. One person was killed and four or five were slightly injured.

*March, 1909.*—Tornadoes, with well-defined pendant, funnel-shaped clouds, occurred on March 23, 1909, at Laredo, in Webb County, and at Crafton and Slidell, in Wise County.

The Laredo tornado occurred from 7:10 to 7:30 p. m. It came from the southwest and went toward the northeast. The path of greatest destruction was 500 yards in width. Trees in the center of the storm's path were prostrated in an easterly direction. The damage to buildings, livestock, and movable property is estimated at \$75,000. One person was killed and fourteen were injured.

The Crafton tornado occurred between 9:45 and 10 p. m. The general direction of this storm was eastward, and the path of greatest destruction was about 80 yards in width. The damage to buildings is estimated at \$5,000. There were no casualties, although a large number of buildings were either destroyed or badly damaged.

The Slidell tornado occurred at 10:15 p. m. It came from the west and went toward the northeast. The damage to buildings and movable property in the immediate vicinity of Slidell is estimated at \$30,000. Eleven persons were killed and ten injured.—B. Bunnenmeyer.